facts contained in the news item have been brought to the notice of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 provides for meeting of certain basic needs such as housing, drinking water, latrines, urinals, washing facilities, protective clothing, creches and canteens, etc. by the employer, besides ensuring payment of minimum wages, travelling allowance, etc. Apart from urging better implementation of existing labour laws, the Government is seriously considering certain proposals to provide statutory guarantee of work of some kind of all citizens.

Inclusion of Kutch district under Desert Development Programme

*351. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to include Kutch district in the Desert Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Gujarat Government has submitted a memorandum to the National Committee on Drought Prone Areas Programme and Desert Development Programme wherein it has been proposed that Kutch district should be included in the Desert Development Programme.

(b) The National Committee set up to look into various aspects of the two programmes will also consider memoranda received from Gujarat Government alongwith similar memoranda received from other State Governments, hold discussions with State Governments if necessary and thereafter finalise its recommendations.

The Government will take a decision on various aspects of the programme including its coverage after the report of the National Committee is received.

Target fixed for completion of Koraput--Rayagada railway line

*352. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target date set for the completion of the construction of Koraput-Rayagada Railway line in Orissa;

(b) whether the construction of that line has been completed; and

(c) if not, what progress has been made so far in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Koraput—Machiliguda (20 Km) has been opened. Machiliguda—Rayagada (144 Km) is expected to be opened by 31-3-1991.

(c) Upto April, 1990, the physical progress is 61% and financial progress is Rs. 232.40 crores.

Losses due to cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

*353. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent cyclone has caused severe damage to the people and properties in Andhra Pradesh;